

An Index to
Historical
Hydrographic and
Topographic Surveys
of the California Coast

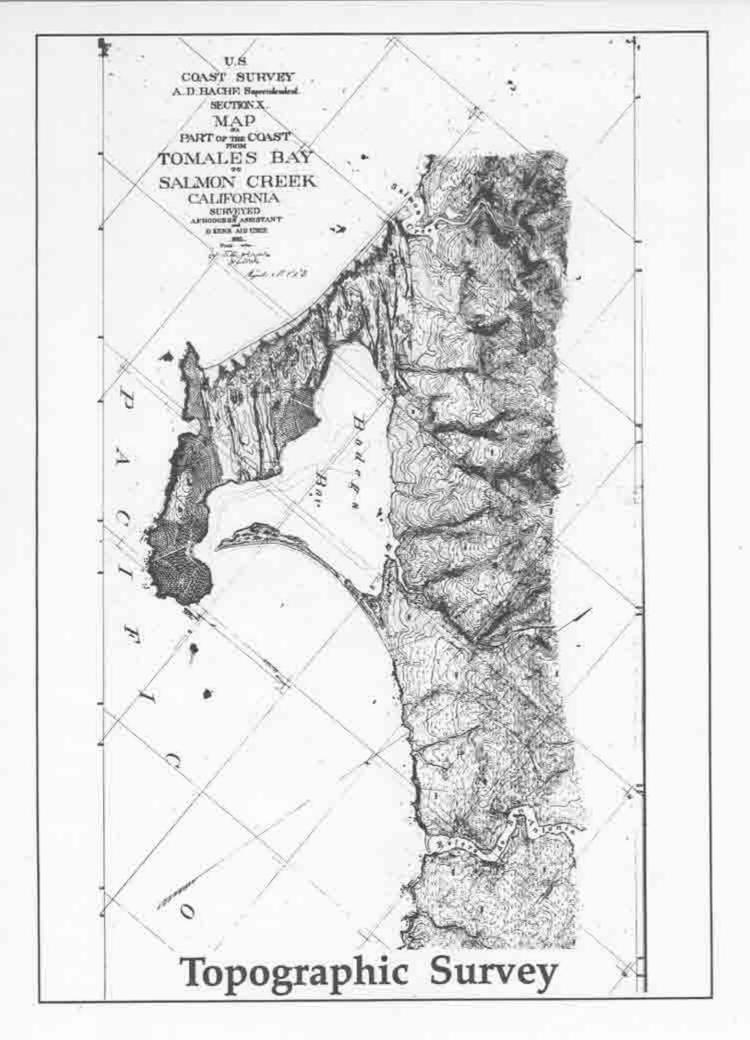
Located in the Files of the State Lands Commission

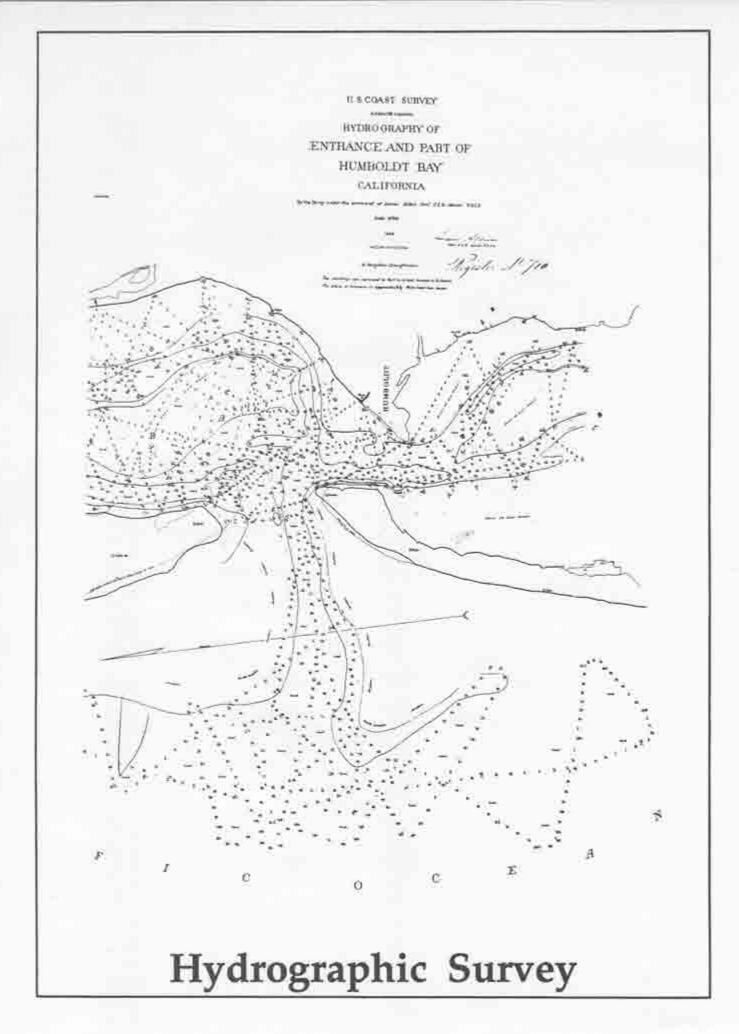
This index has been prepared by the staff of the State Lands Commission as an aid to its own staff, libraries and others who have expressed interest in the collection. It has not been approved by the State Lands Commission.

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NOTE: Those hydrographic and topographic surveys having descriptive reports on file are highlighted in color on each index list.





AVAILABILITY OF HISTORICAL U.S. COAST & GEODETIC SURVEY TOPOGRAPHIC AND HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYS OF THE CALIFORNIA COAST AND ADJACENT WATERS

In 1971, the California State Lands Commission, headquartered in Sacramento, California, began an accelerated acquisition of negative film copies of most of the historical topographic and hydrographic surveys along the California coast. These surveys were collected and compiled to aid the staff of the Commission in studies of the historical water lines and water levels within the bays and the offshore zone along the California coast.

The negative copies were produced by direct photographic duplication of the National Ocean Service master negatives. This work was done under the direction of the National Ocean Service in Rockville, Maryland. Upon receipt of the negative copies, staff of the State Lands Commission determined the precise scale of each negative. This scale determination enables accurate reproduction of the surveys to most required scales.

The following is a brief description of the surveys and information on obtaining copies of available charts.

A. Description of Surveys

Historical surveys are of significance not only for the water lines which are shown, but for the historical locations and configuration of villages, towns, cities and various landmarks which are shown by the early surveyors. The use of these surveys by historians, geographers and other research specialists is welcomed.

Topographic Surveys

Topographic surveys, as the name implies, are maps of the topography or land features of an area. On the historical surveys (1835-1927), the area of coverage varies from 1 to 10 miles; however, a great majority show only the shoreline and adjacent planimetric features. On these topographic surveys the high water line is delineated by the topographer without recourse to field surveys to determine elevations.

On some surveys the low water line is fully delineated but often represents only the topographer's estimate of its location. Most of these historical surveys were done by the planetable.

2. Hydrographic Surveys

Hydrographic surveys are maps of the water area, showing principally the depths of water (in feet or fathoms) taken during the field survey but referred to a particular plane or reference. This reference on the California coast is usually the mean lower low water line. Besides water depths, the survey also contains depth contours, submerged and exposed rocks, underwater channels, reefs, banks, shoals and dangers to navigation. On these historical surveys (1835-1927) most of the soundings were done by leadline surveys.

3. Descriptive Reports

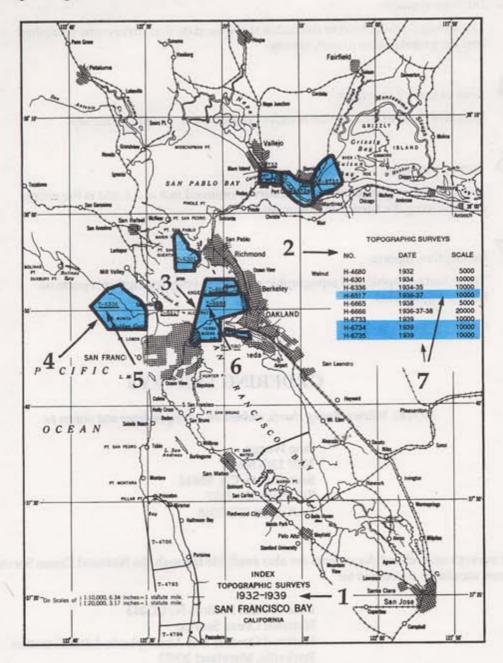
A descriptive report is a written narrative accompanying each topographic or hydrographic survey, and is part of the official record of the survey. It is prepared by the field engineer for the purpose of supplementing the survey with information that cannot be shown graphically thereon and to direct attention to important features. It outlines the conditions under which the survey was made and often sheds important light on the interpretation of a particular length of shoreline. Descriptive reports were not a standard requirement in the Coast Survey until April 11, 1887, when instructions for their submission were first published. Most reports carry the same identification numbers as the survey sheets. If a descriptive report for a particular survey is needed, include this in the request and the report will be forwarded if it is available.

HISTORICAL TOPOGRAPHIC AND HYDROGRAPHIC INDEXES

A. Historical Survey Indexes

- 1. Indexes are segregated into two categories: Topographic Surveys and Hydrographic Surveys.
- Each index sheet covers a certain portion of the California coast, i.e., San Diego to San Pedro, Point Fermin to Point Conception and continuing up the coast.
- Each index sheet shows the historical survey available for that area; the date of the survey; and the original scale of the survey.

B. Interpreting Chart Indexes



NOTE: The numbers in the left margin are keyed to the numbers in the above Example—1.

1 Type of Index Sheet:

Indicates the type of index, Topographic or Hydrographic, and the dates of the surveys included within this index, as well as the coastal area that each index covers.

- 2 Surveys available:
 - The surveys available from this index show the date that survey was published and the original scale of each survey.
- 3&4 Area of survey coverage:

Indicates the coastal area that is included within each available survey.

5&6 Survey numbers:

This is the survey number for each survey outlined in 3 and 4 and is the means of identifying the survey in Commission files.

7 Descriptive reports:

Those hydrographic and topographic surveys having descriptive reports on file are highlighted.

ORDERING SURVEYS

NOTE: When ordering charts, address all correspondence and orders to:

Jane Wegge 1807 13th Street Sacramento, CA 95814 Tel. (916) 322-3317 FAX (916) 322-3568

Copies of surveys and related documents are also available through the National Ocean Service. Requisitions should be addressed to:

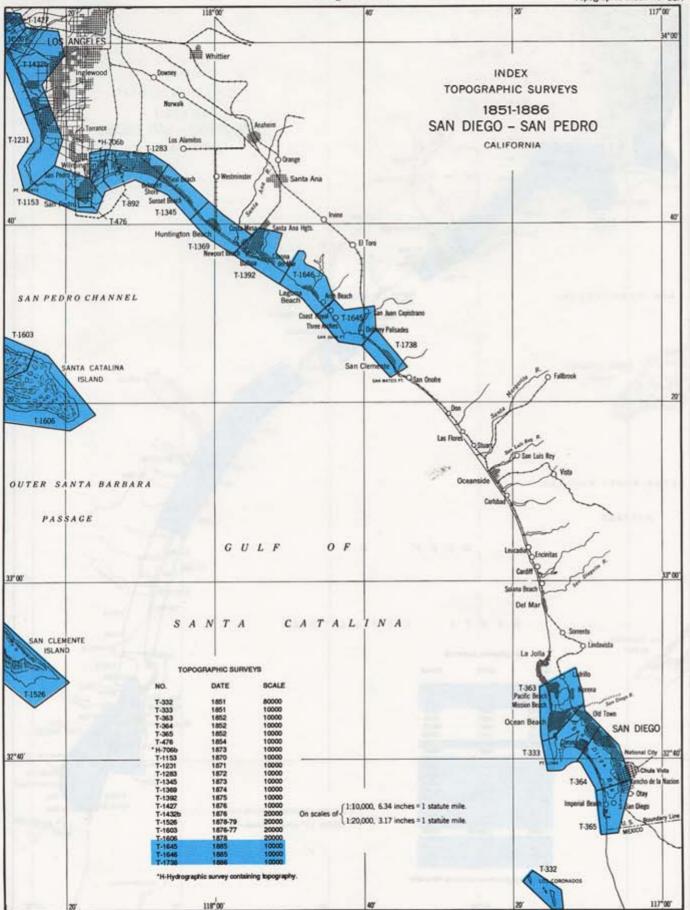
Data Control Section, N/CG243 National Ocean Service National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Rockville, Maryland 20852

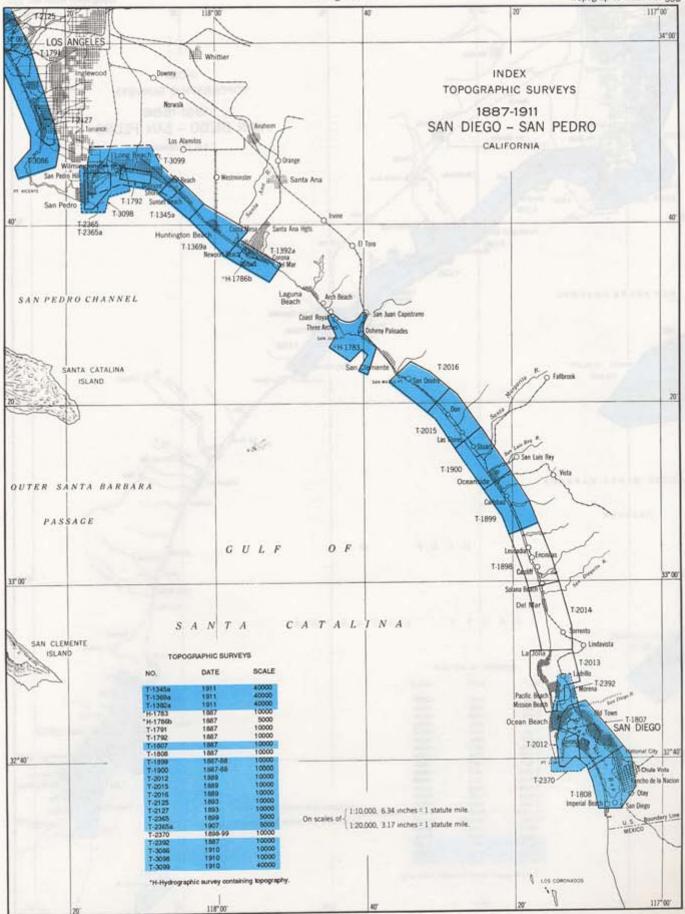
PROCEDURES FOR ORDERING SURVEYS FROM THE STATE LANDS COMMISSION

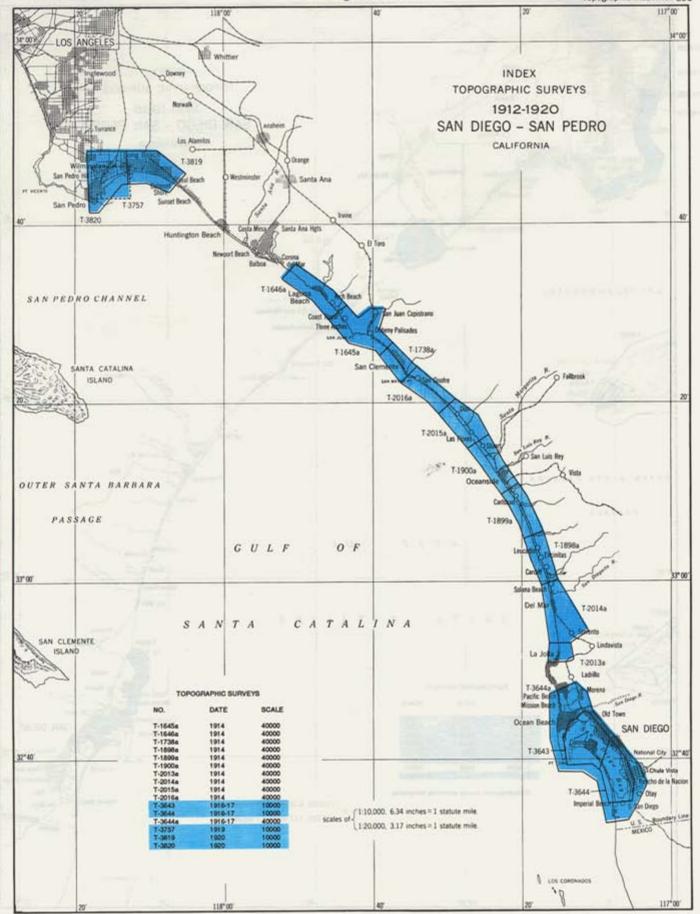
- A. The State Lands Commission will act as an intermediary whenever a survey is ordered. The individual ordering the survey shall be responsible for the following procedures:
 - Contact a reproduction firm, and arrange for billing and payment. The State Lands Commission will provide a current list of area firms, upon request.
 - 2. Submit written instructions to the State Lands Commission detailing:

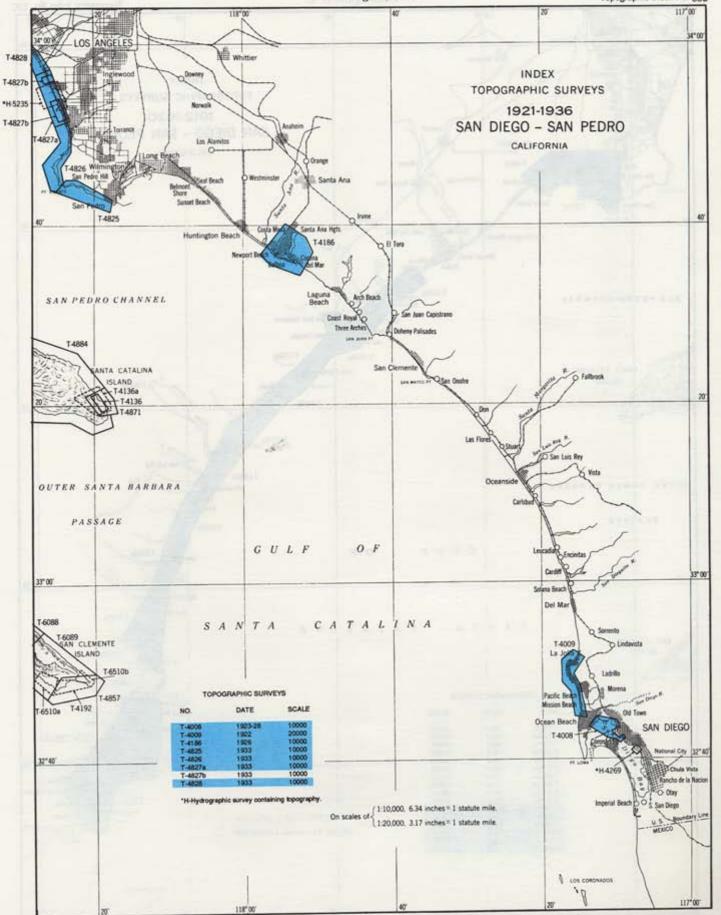
- a. Survey number.
- b. Scale required.
- c. Type of reproduction and amount of copies required.
- d. Firm to be used for reproduction.
- After financial arrangements for reproduction have been made, have the firm contact the State Lands Commission so that we may release the negative for reproduction. Pickup and delivery charges must be borne by the customer.
- B. The State Lands Commission will print a few 8 1/2" x 11" xerox copies for more specific area identification. Arrangements can be made to purchase additional xerox copies if desired.
- C. The prices of prints may vary according to the type of reproduction requirements. Any private reproduction firm in Sacramento may be used as long as the procedures in "A" above are followed.

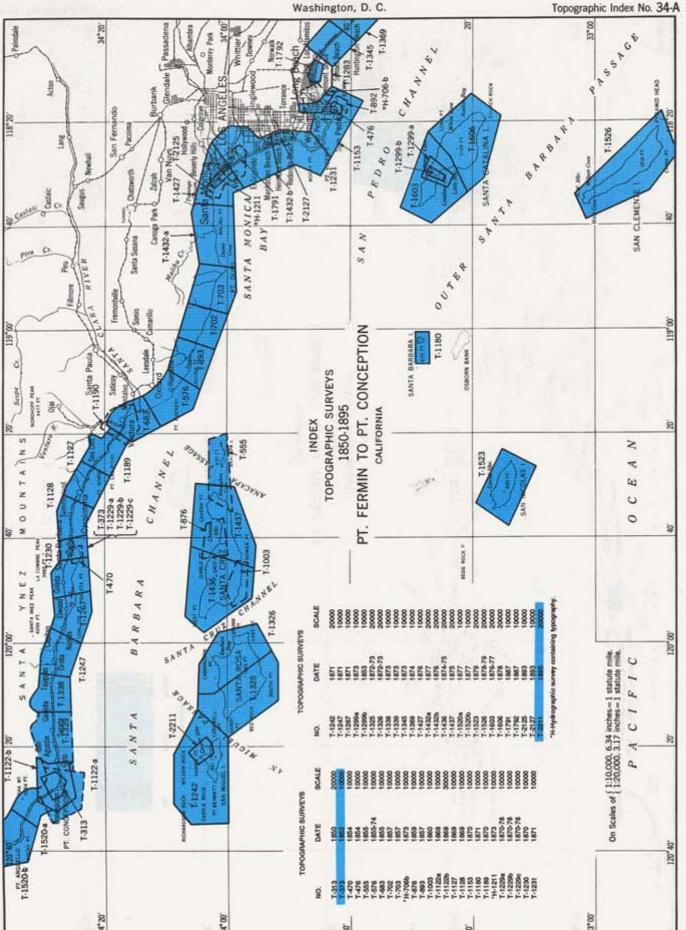
Topographic Surveys



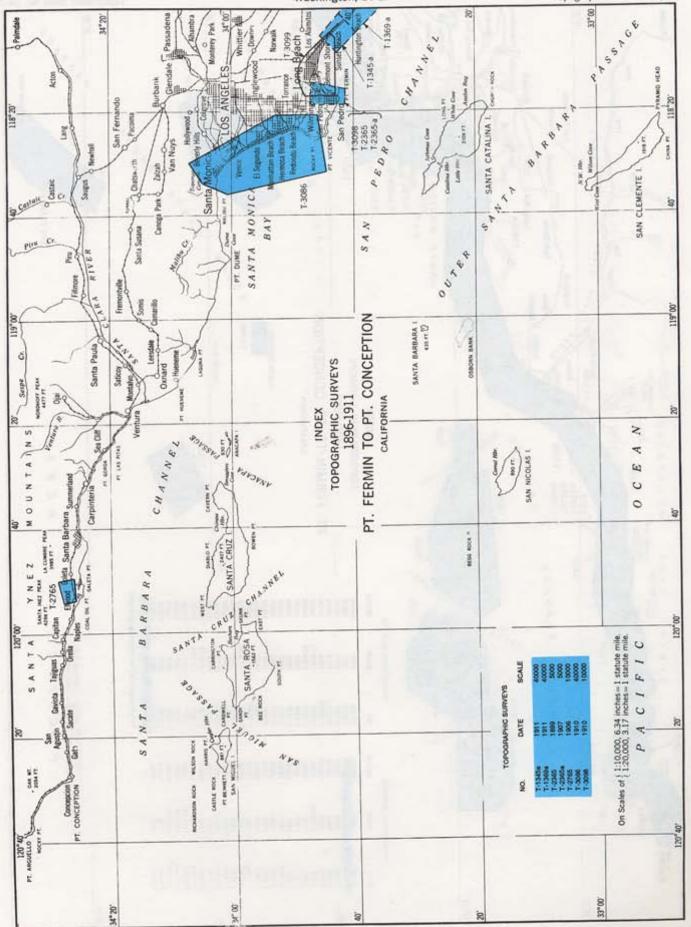


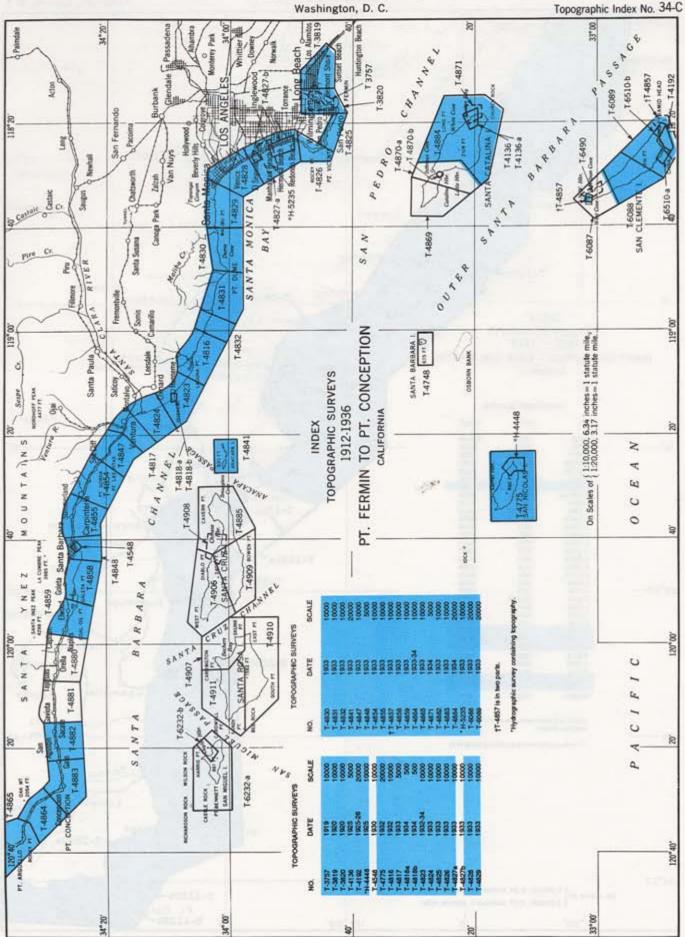


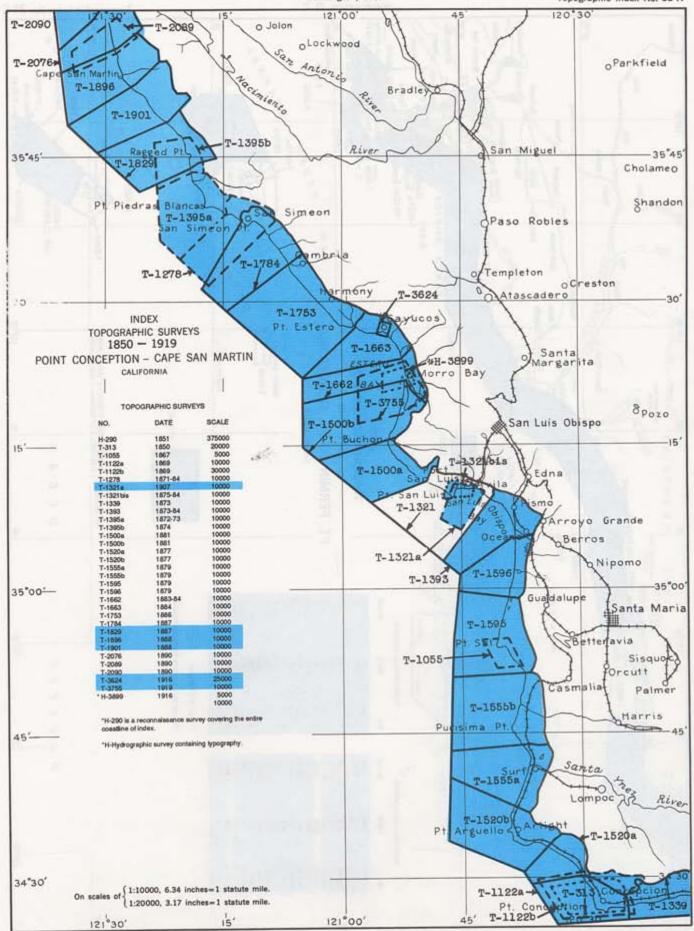


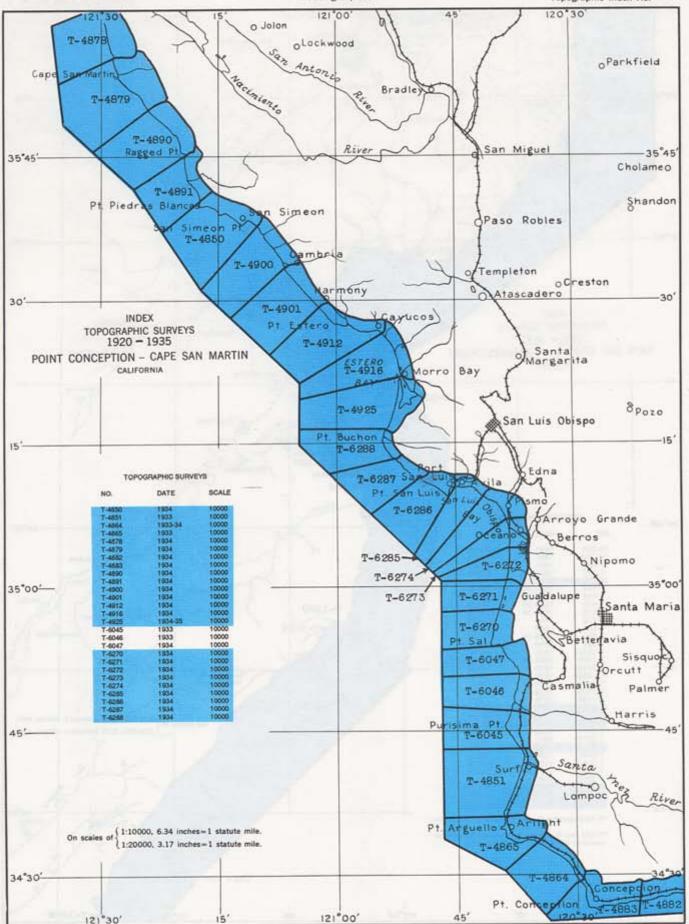


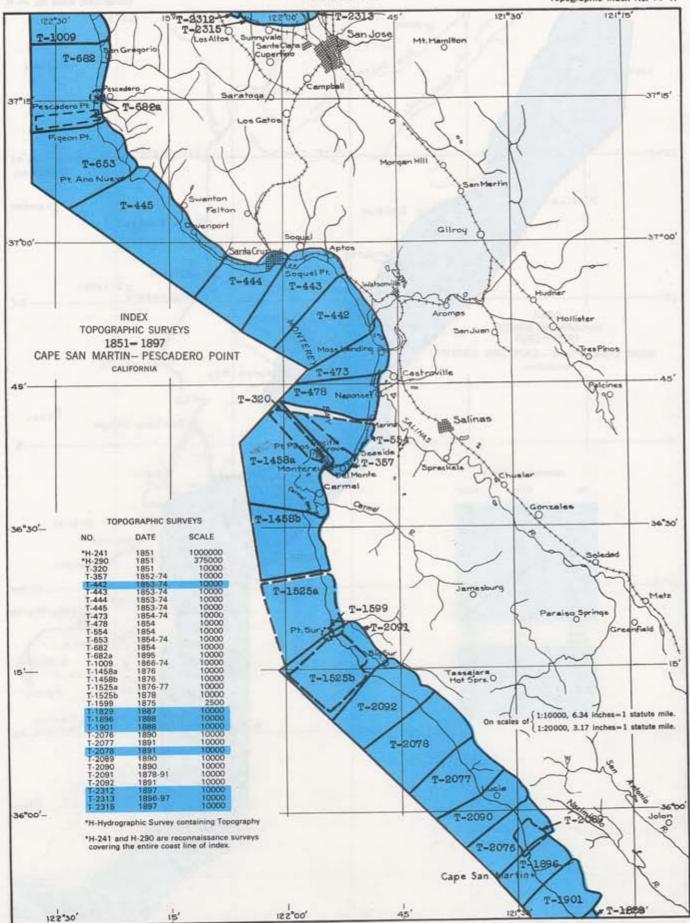
Topographic Index No. 34-B

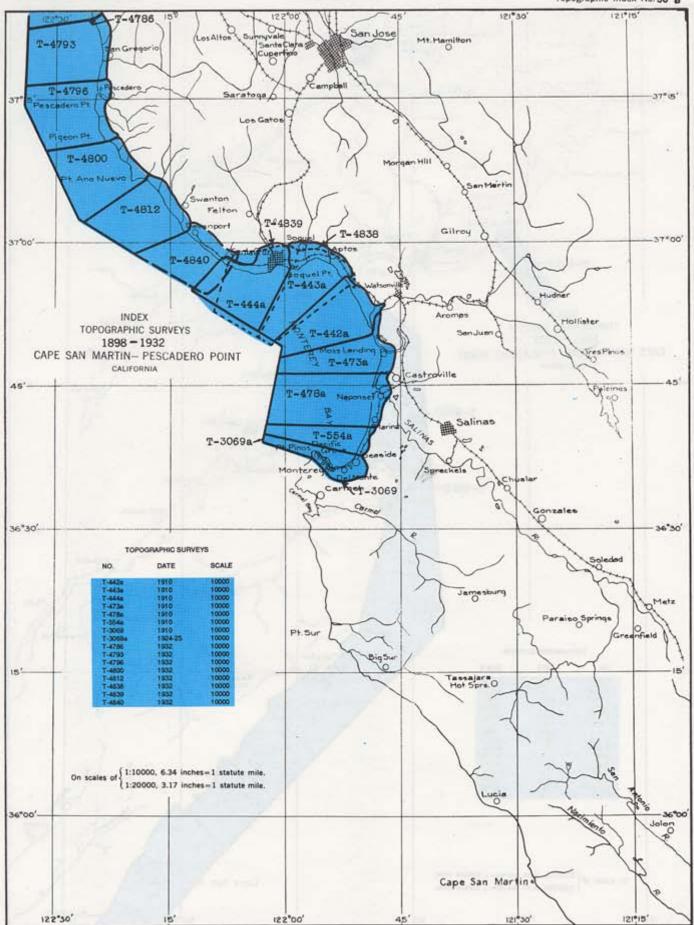


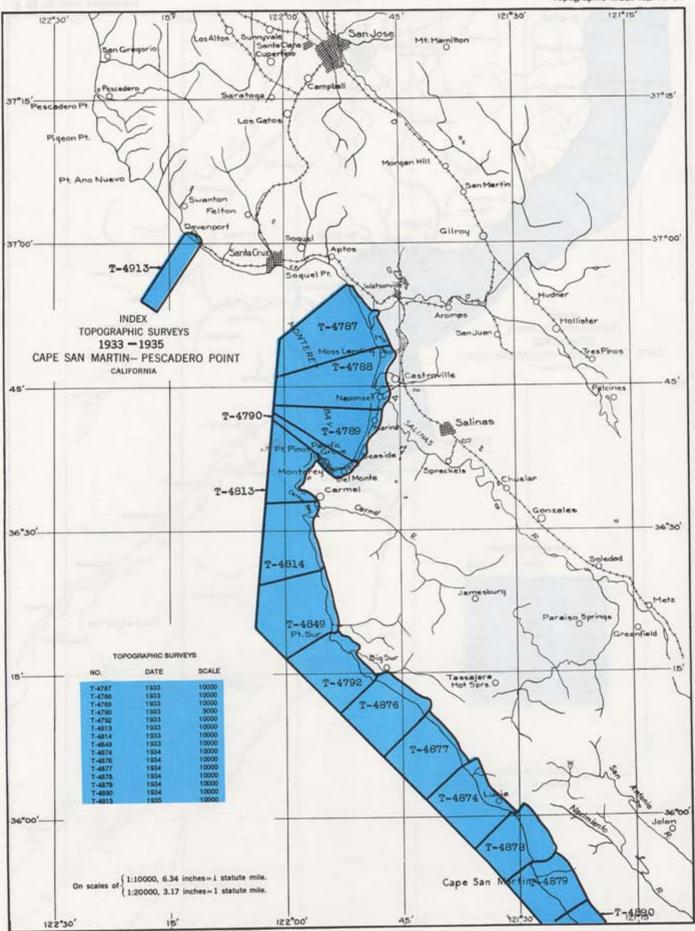


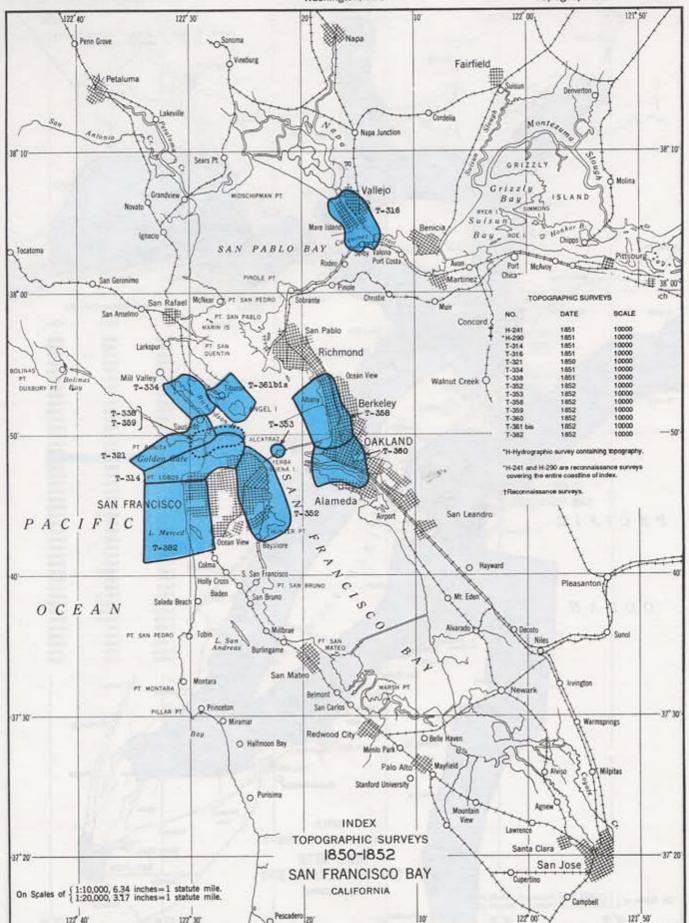


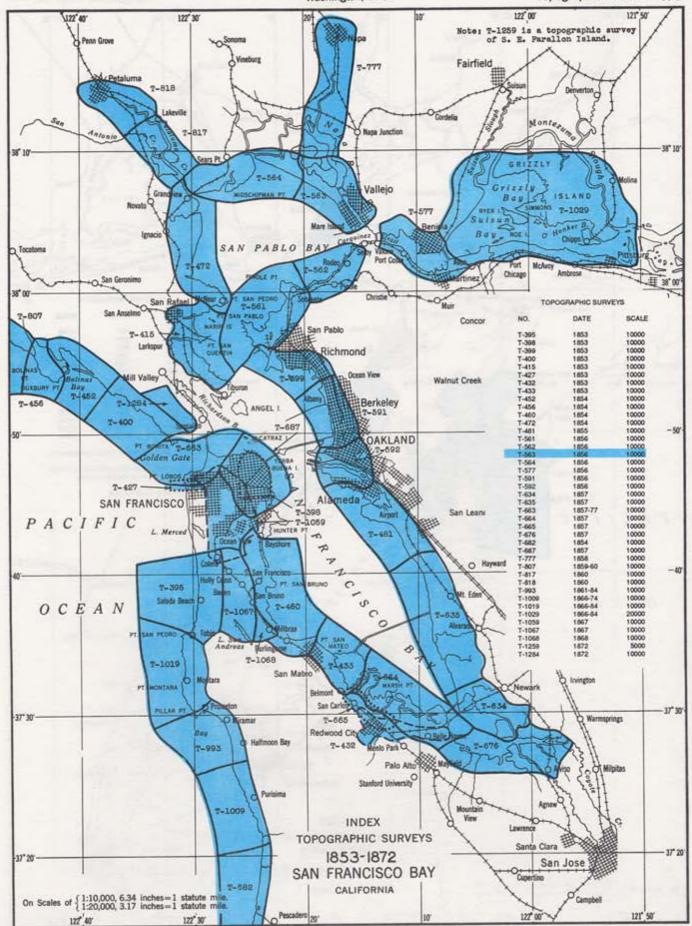


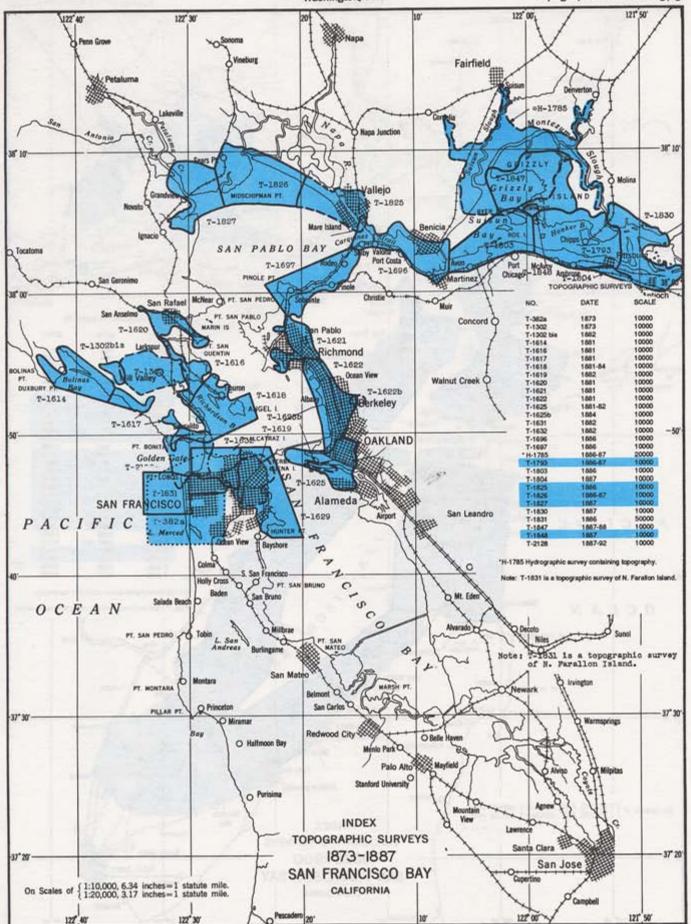


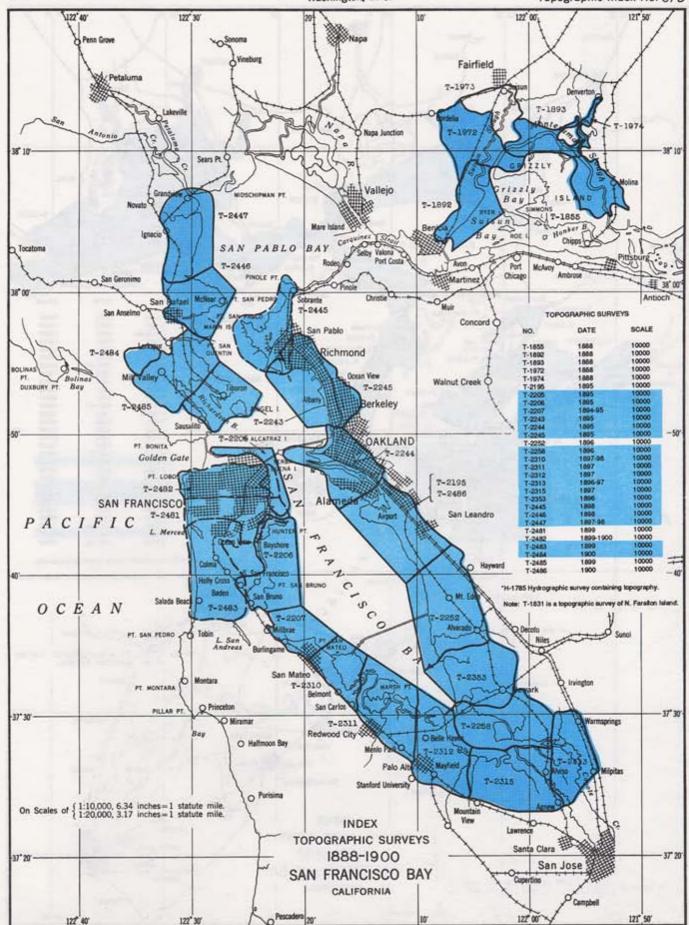


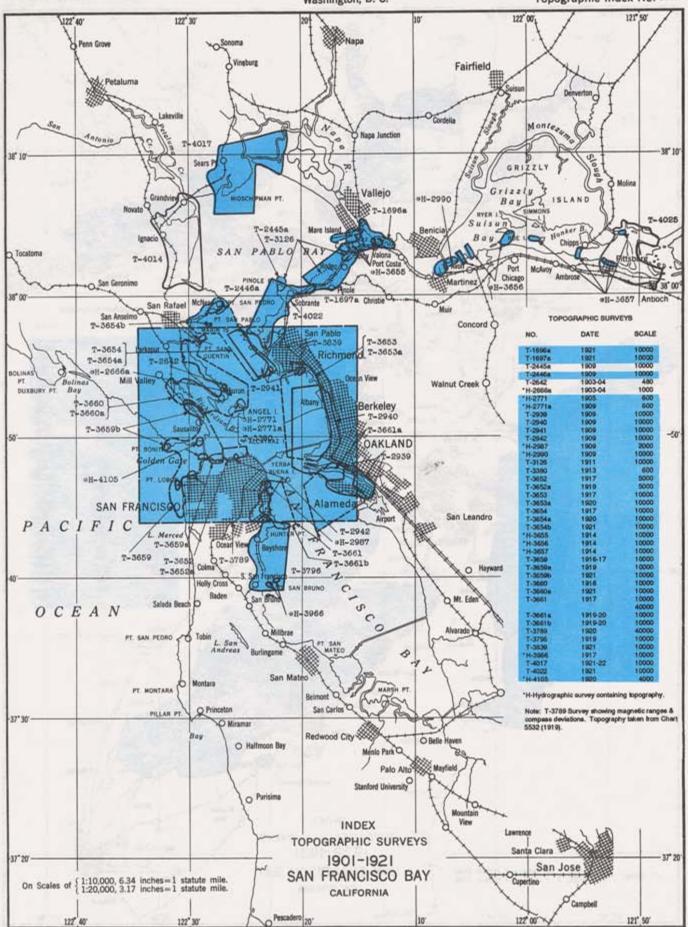


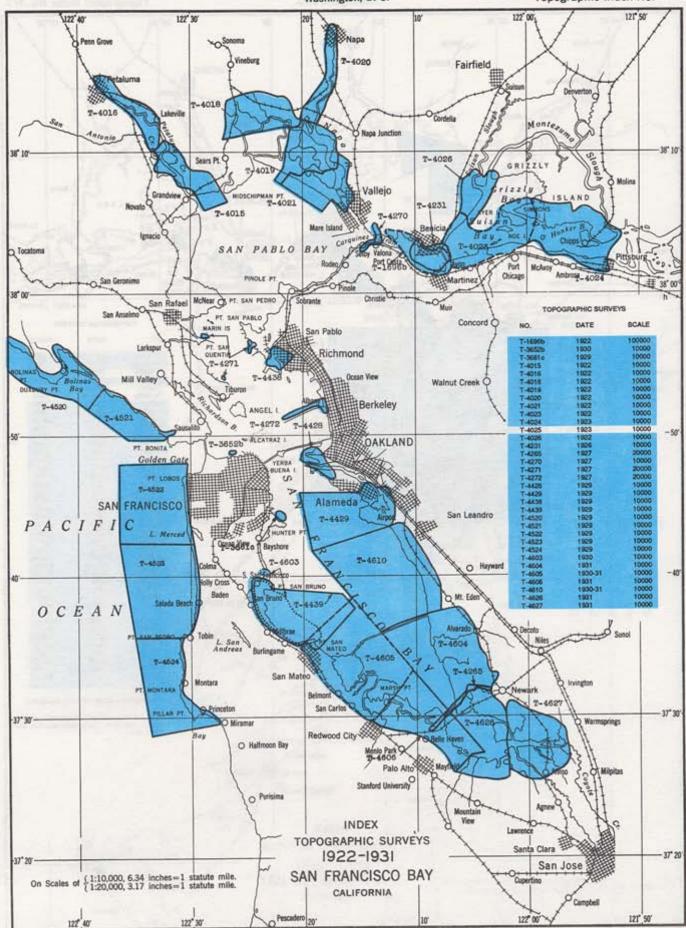


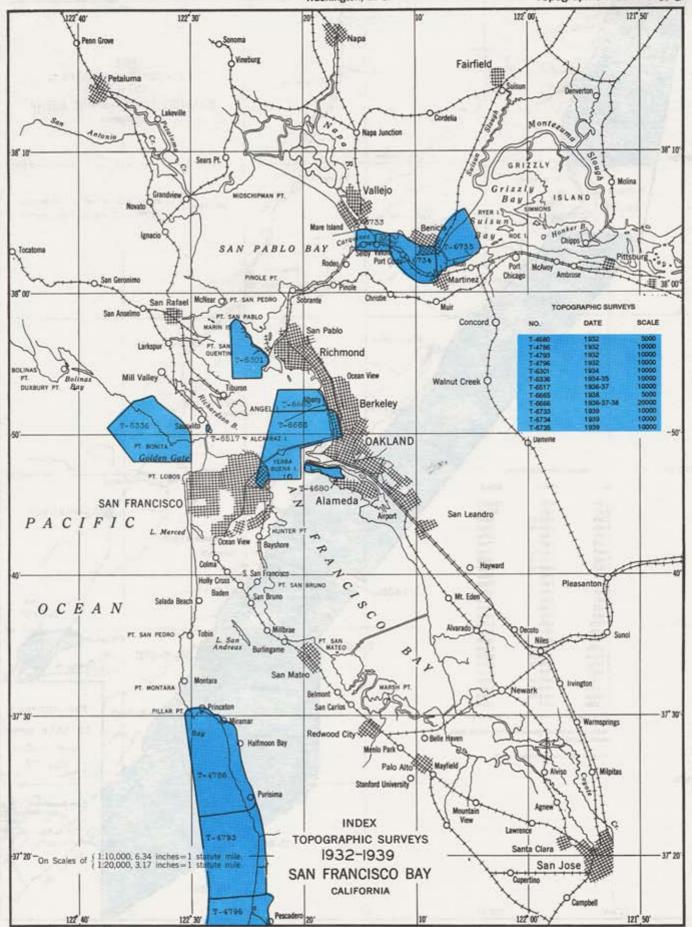


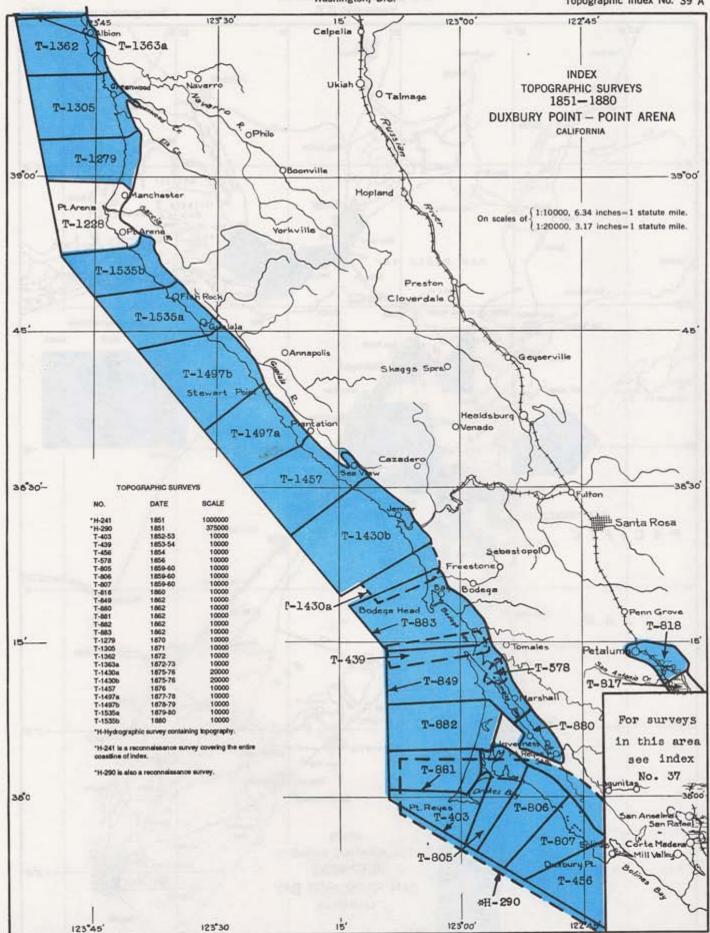


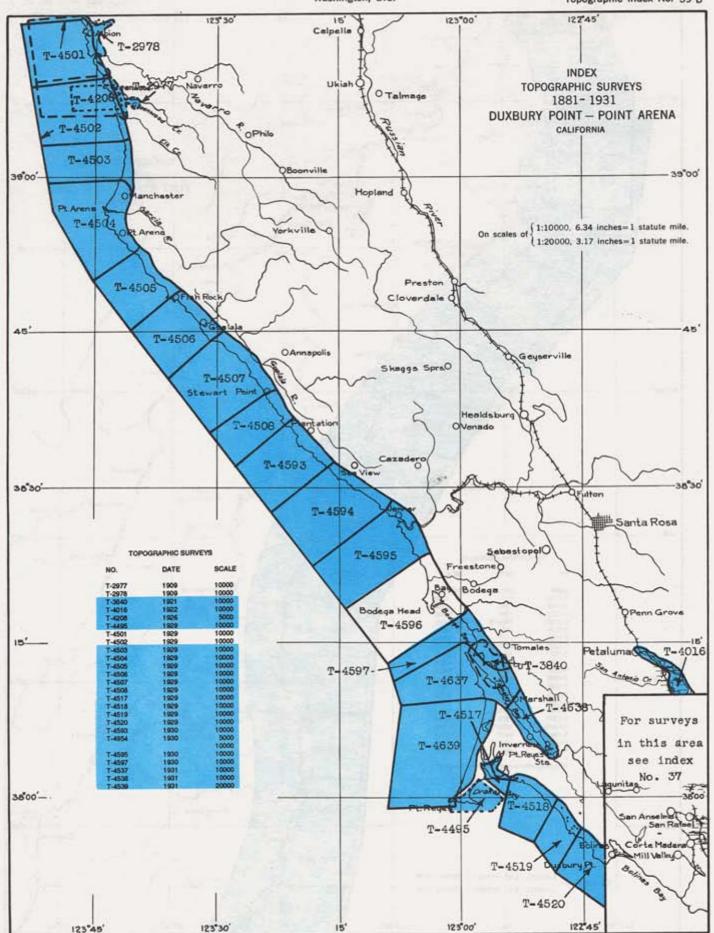


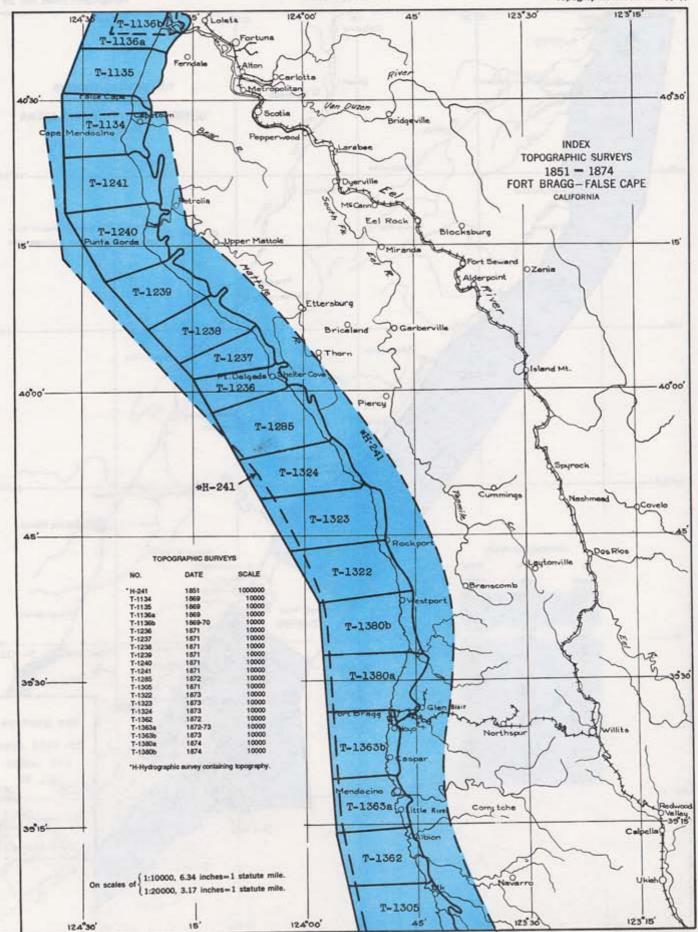


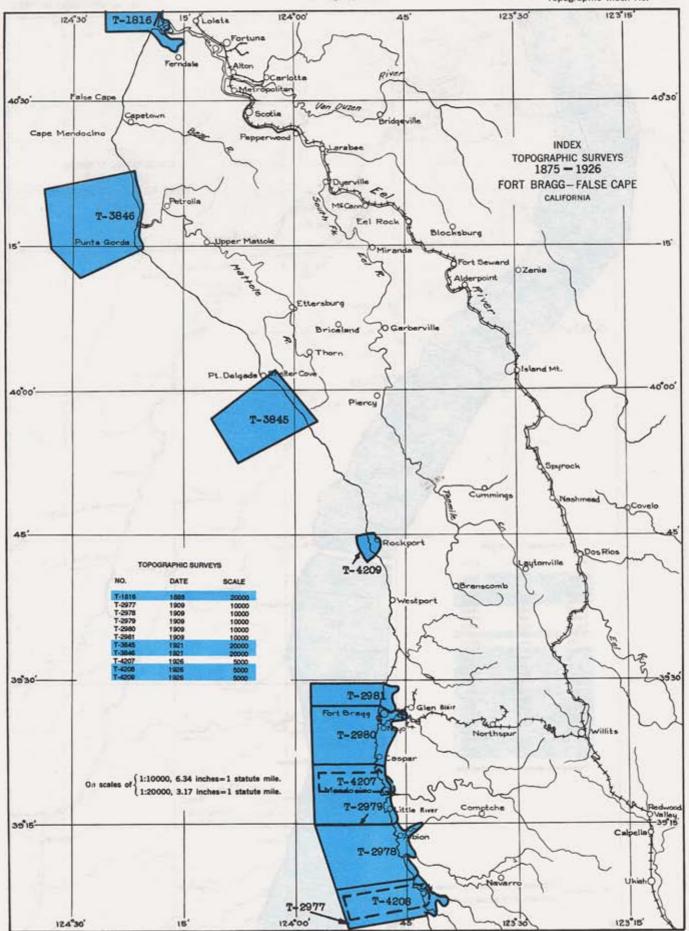


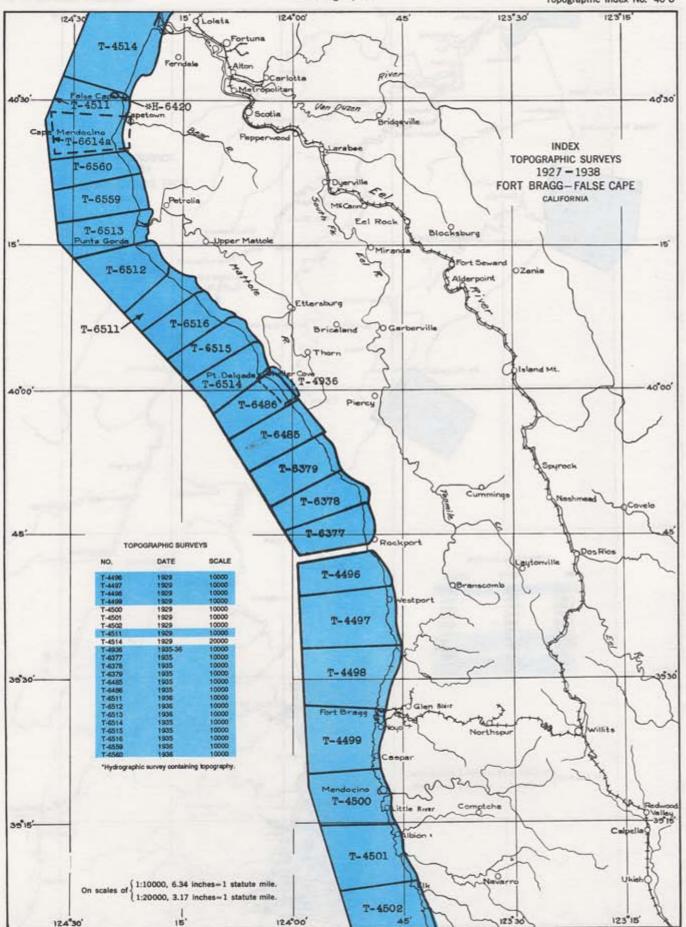


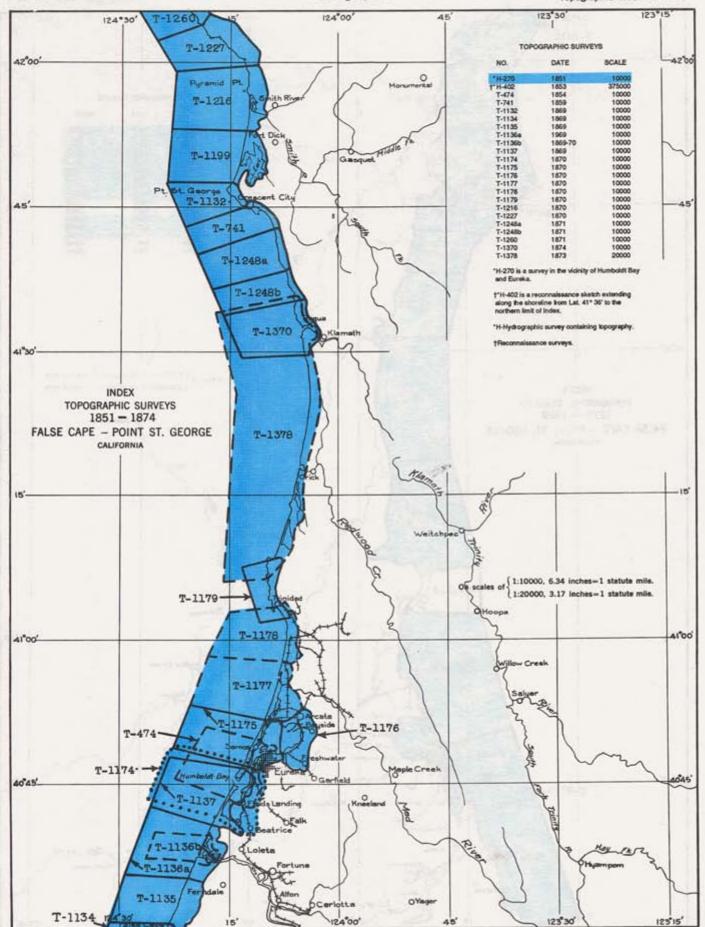


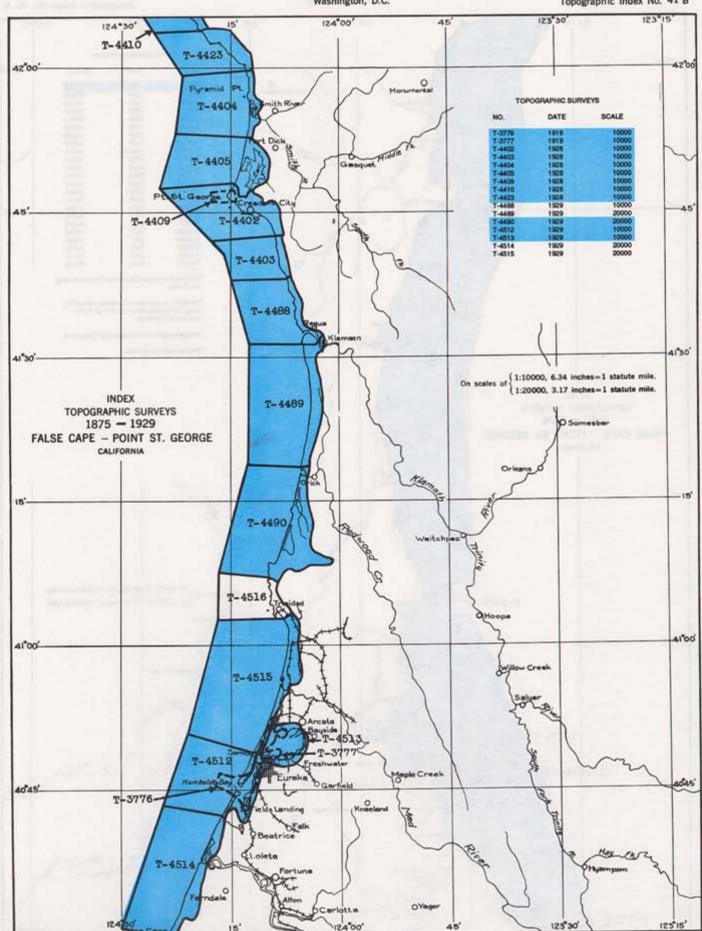


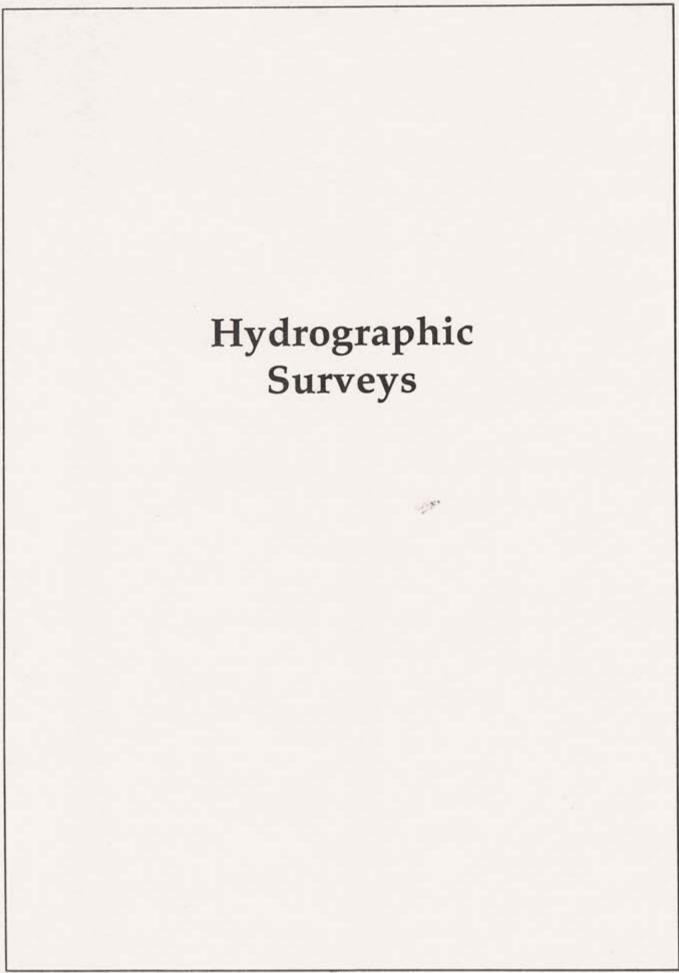


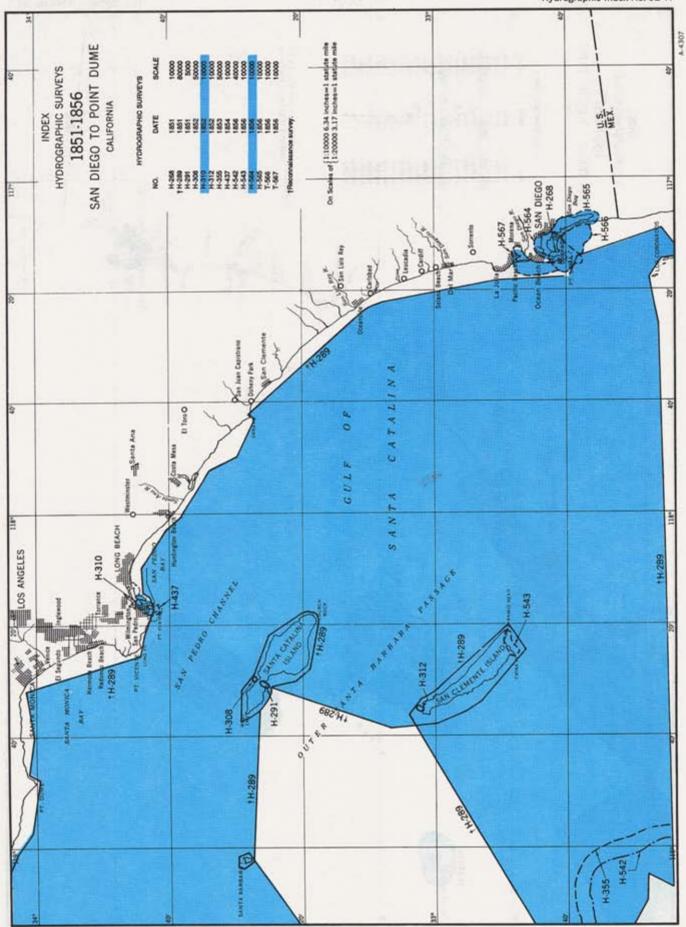


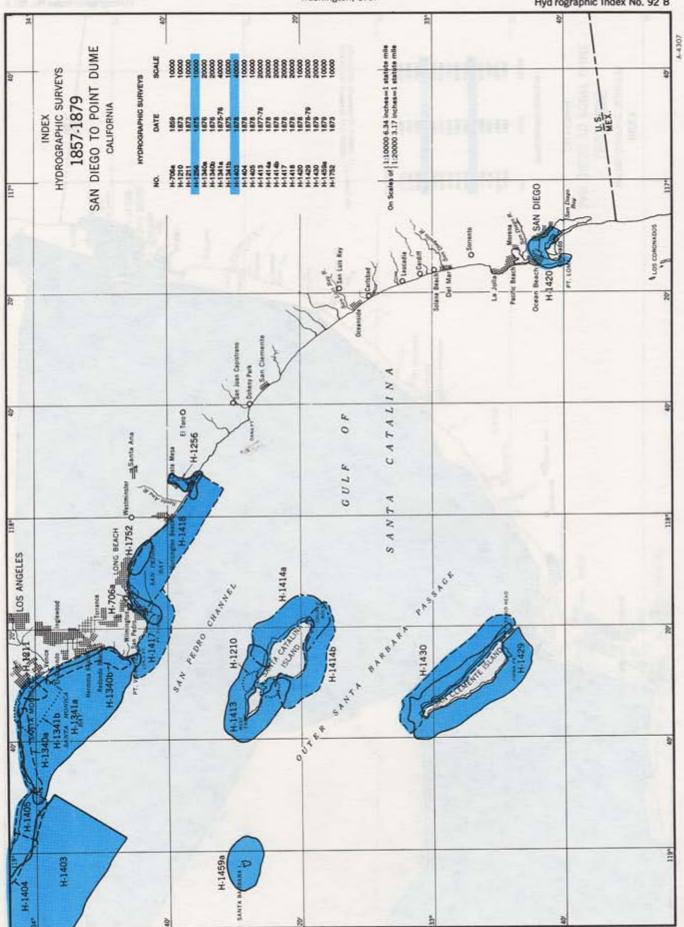


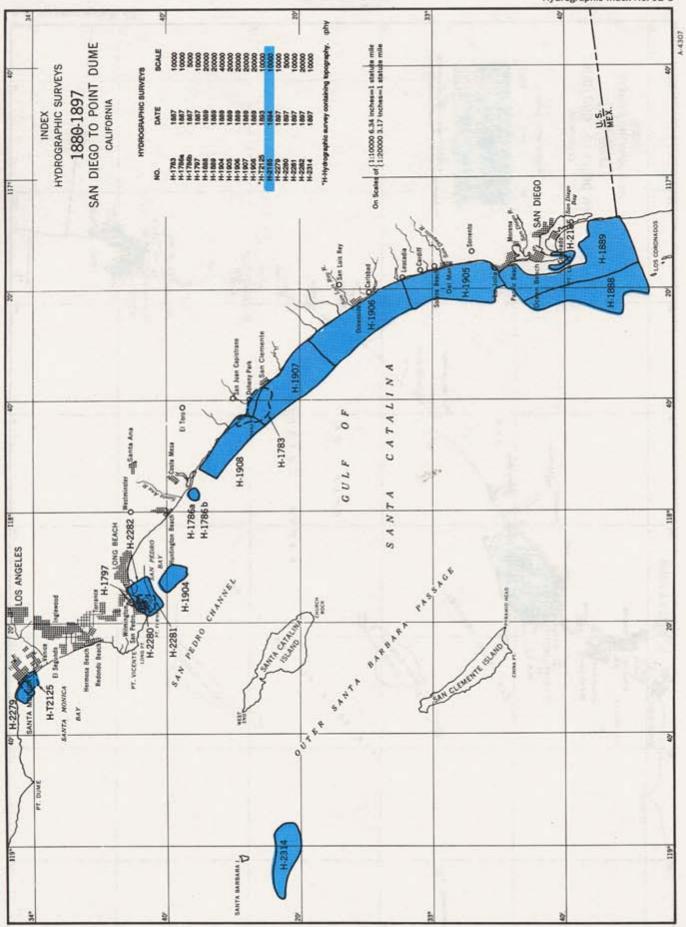




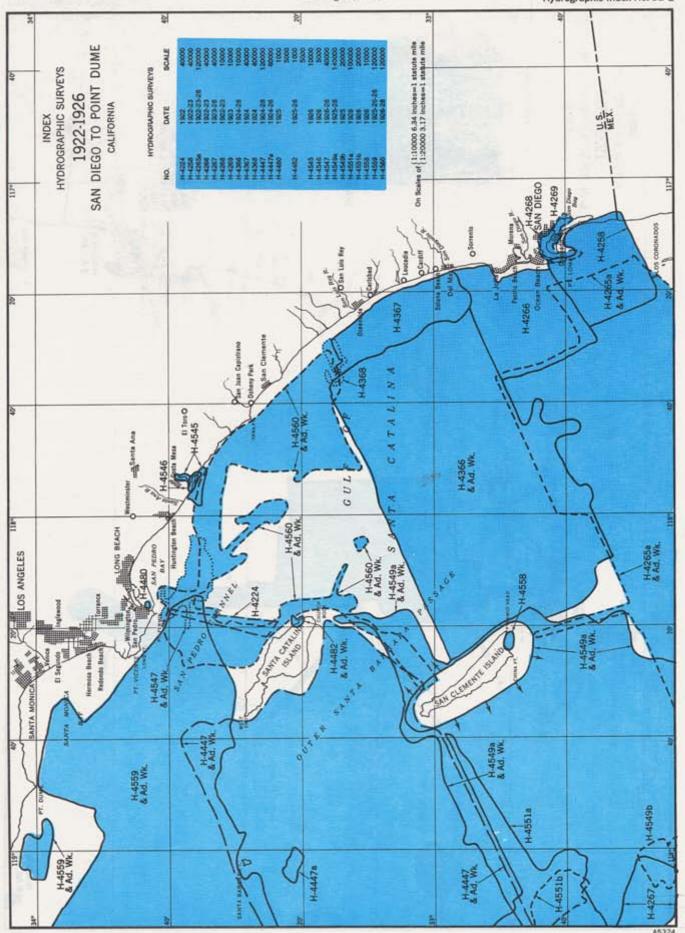


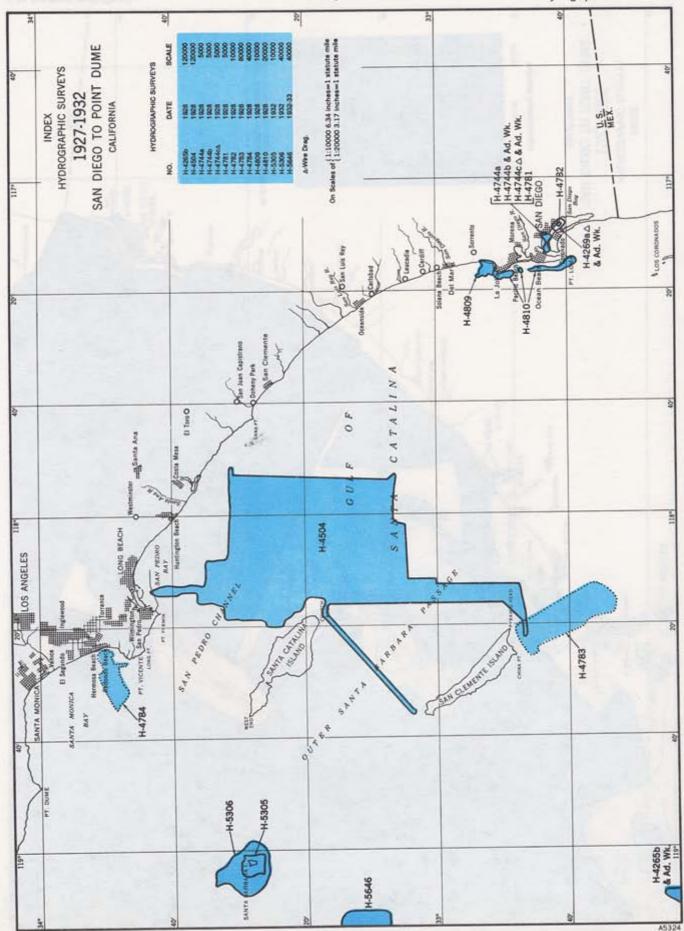


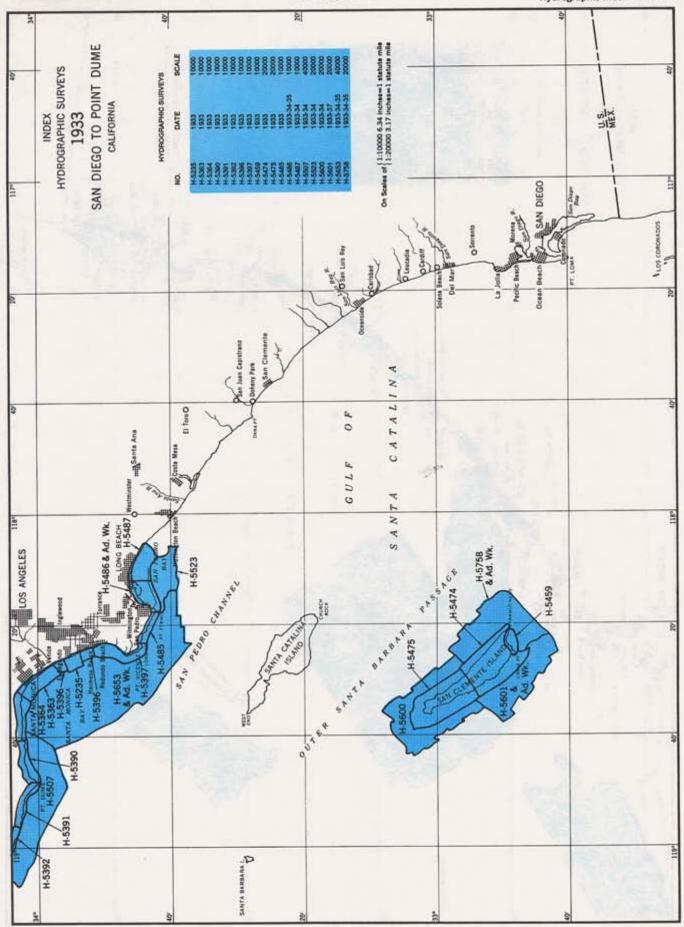


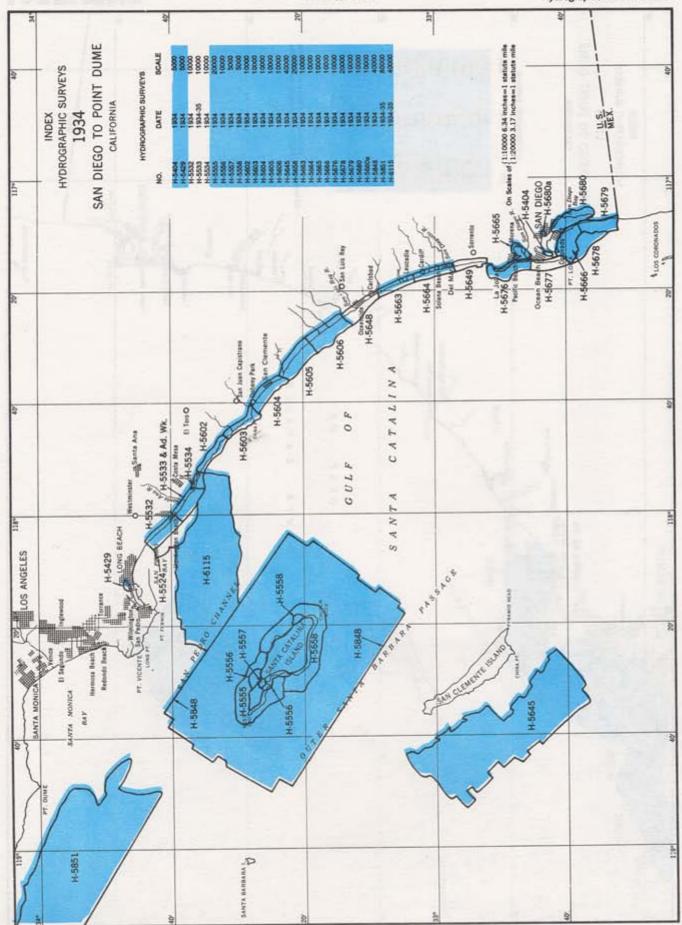


DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Coast and Geodetic Survey Washington, D.C.









DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Environmental Science Services Administration U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Washington, D.C.

